ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and an apparatus for manufacturing a book block for books, brochures, or the like, from printed sheets connected to each other at the folds thereof by thread stitching, wherein the printed sheets are transferred in a sequence astride with the side portions thereof directed downwardly by means of a conveyor in an accelerated manner onto a feeding device which interacts with a stitching device arranged at a right angle relative to the folds of the printed sheets, such that the printed sheets arrive on the feeding device in the stitching position, and wherein the printed sheets are shifted to the stitching device for sewing the printed sheets to another printed sheet to form a book block. The feeding device is moved prior to the arrival of a printed sheet into the stitching position towards the stitching device.